R327

Z 17665)4ZYRBYLZSR

BC-COUP-DACKO 4 BANGUI (5)14-316 ... AGAINST HUMANITY.)

PRESIDENT DACKO TOLD THE STUDENTS HE WOULD SEEK THE ... EXTRADITION OF THE TOPPLED EMPEROR -- NOW SITTING IN A PLANE ON AN AIRSTRIP IN FRANCE AND REFUSED ENTRY BY THE FRENCH -- FROM WHEREVER HE EVENTUALLY FOUND EXILE.

HE WOULD GO ON TRIAL BEFORE A PEOPLE'S COURT ON CHARGES OF CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY, SAID MR DACKO.

THE STUDENTS TOLD THE PRESIDENT THAT BOKASSA HAD SALTED AWAY ABOUT 100 MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE TREASURY. THEIR SOURCE FOR THIS WAS NOT KNOWN.

MR DACKO ASKED FOR PATIENCE WHILE HE CARRIED OUT A HOUSE-CLEANING AND SET UP A GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL SALVATION.

FRENCH TROOPS WERE GUARDING BANGUI AIRPORT AND AN AIRSTRIP AT BERENGO, 80 KM (50 MILES) TO THE SOUTH, TO PREVENT ANY COMEBACK BID BY BOKASSA OR HIS SUPPORTERS. TRUCKS BLOCKED RUNWAYS

REPORTERS WERE TAKEN BY HELICOPTER TODAY TO BERENGO, WHICH WAS THE SEAT OF THE IMPERIAL COURT, TO INSPECT THE TINY VILLAGE OF ABOUT 50 HOUSES IN A JUNGLE CLEARING.

MORE 1130

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY RLS DATE 12/28/82
RDS☐ or XDS☐ EXP. DATE
TS AUTH. EXCEPTION(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED☐ DECLASSIFIABLE☐
RELEASE DENIED☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

R328

(17669)LZYRBYLRYR

BC-COUP-DACKO 5 BANGUI

BOKASSA'S BIG BLACK MERCEDES WAS ABANDONED IN FRONT OF HIS PALACE.

IN BANGUI, A HUGE STATUE OF THE OUSTED DICTATOR WAS TORN DOWN TODAY AND DRAGGED THROUGH THE STREETS WHILE CROWDS JEERED AND SHOUTED INSULTS.

MR DACKO SAID IN A TELEVISION INTERVIEW BROADCAST IN PARIS TODAY THAT HE HAD DECIDED TO LAUNCH HIS COUP AFTER HEARING THAT EMPEROR BOKASSA PLANNED TO HAVE HIM ASSASSINATED.

"I HEARD RECENTLY THAT BOKASSA WANTED TO KILL ME IN PARIS," HE TOLD THE TF-1 NETWORK. "THAT IS WHY I DECIDED TO ACT AND TAKE HIM. I HAD THE FIRST MOVE."

BE-AFS 1132